



12-13-04

AF/2662/S
PATENT
Bw

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Nils Gura and Hans Eberle

Title: DISTRIBUTED LEAST CHOICE FIRST ARBITER

Application No.: 09/621,031 Filed: July 21, 2000

Examiner: Odland, David E. Group Art Unit: 2662

Atty. Docket No.: 1004-4282-1 Confirmation No.: 4061

December 10, 2004

Mail Stop Amendment
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, § 1.97 and § 1.98, the undersigned brings to the Examiner's attention in the above-identified application the patents, publications, applications or other information identified in the attached:

- Form(s) PTO/SB/08A (1 page(s), with copy of no reference(s)).
- Form(s) PTO/SB/08B (1 page(s), with copy of 3 reference(s)).
- Listing of Pending Applications (N/A page(s), with copy of no application(s)).
- Other: N/A

Citation of such information shall not be construed as (i) an admission that the information necessarily is, or corresponds to, prior art with respect to the instant invention, (ii) a representation that a search has been made, other than as described herein, or (iii) an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b).

For each item of information listed that is not in the English language, the undersigned has provided a concise explanation of the relevance through (i) an English language abstract, (ii) an English language equivalent application, or (iii) if cited in a search report or other action by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, an English language version of the search report or action that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

12/16/2004 MBEYENE1 00000020 09621031

01 FC:1806

180.00 0P

CERTAIN COPIES NOT INCLUDED

Pursuant to operative regulations, certain copies need not be provided and corresponding information is identified in this Information Disclosure Statement by citation only. In particular,

- In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(ii), copies of cited U.S. Patents and U.S. Patent Application Publications are not included.
- Certain information was submitted to, or cited by, the Office in Application No(s). N/A, filed N/A, to which the above-identified application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), copies of that information are not included.
- Pursuant to 1287 OG 163 (October 19, 2004), for those cited pending U.S. patent applications filed (or which entered the national stage under 35 U.S.C. § 371) on or after June 30, 2003 or which are otherwise stored in the USPTO's Image File Wrapper system, copies are not included.

FEE AUTHORIZATION

The undersigned believes that this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of (i) a final action under § 1.113, (ii) a notice of allowance under § 1.311 or (iii) an action that otherwise closes prosecution. Accordingly, this Information Disclosure Statement is accompanied by the fee set forth in § 1.17(p) as follows:

- A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed herewith.
- The undersigned hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge the fee set forth in § 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. n/a.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being

- deposited with the US Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.
- facsimile transmitted to the US Patent and Trademark Office.

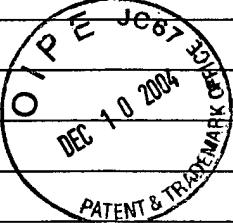
Date

Respectfully submitted,



Mark Zagorin, Reg. No. 36,067
Attorney for Applicant(s)
(512) 338-6311
(512) 338-6301 (fax)

EXPRESS MAIL LABEL: EV544949101US

PTO/SB/08A (Substitute for form 1449/PTO)		Attorney Docket No.: 1004-4282-1				
		Application No.: 09/621,031				
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		First Named Inventor: Nils Gura				
(Use several sheets if necessary)		Filing Date: July 21, 2000				
		Group Art Unit: 2662				
		Examiner Name: Odland, David E.				
		Date Submitted: December 10, 2004				
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
	AA	US-3,676,846	07-11-1972	Busch		
	AB	US-5,550,815	08-27-1996	Cloonan et al.		
	AC	US-5,821,875	10-13-1998	Lee et al.		
	AD	US-6,580,720 B1	06-17-2003	Francis et al.		
	AE	US-6,667,955 B1	12-23-2003	Blanc et al.		
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
Examiner Signature				Date Considered		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).

² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.

³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3).

⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible.

⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14.

PTO/SB/08B (Substitute for form 1449/PTO)		Attorney Docket No.: 1004-4282-1	
		Application No.: 09/621,031	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)		First Named Inventor: Nils Gura	
		Filing Date: July 21, 2000	
		Group Art Unit: 2662	
		Examiner Name: Odland, David E.	
		Date Submitted: December 10, 2004	
NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initial*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	AA	KAI Y. ENG, MICHAEL G. HLUCHYJ, AND YU-SHUAN YEH, "A Knockout Switch for Variable-Length Packets," IEEE Journal on Selected Areas in Communications, Vol. SAC-5, No. 9, December, 1987, pp. 1426-1435.	
	AB	MARTIN COLLIER AND TOMMY CURRAN, "Path Allocation in a Three-Stage Broadband Switch with Intermediate Channel Grouping," INFOCOM '93, Proceedings Twelfth Annual Joint Conference of the IEEE Computer and Communications Societies, Networking: Foundation for the Future, IEEE, Vol. 3, March 28 – April 1, 1993, pp. 927-934.	
	AC	MARTIN COLLIER AND TOMMY CURRAN, "Cell-Level Path Allocation in a Three-Stage ATM Switch," Communications, 1994, iCC 94, SUPERCOMM/ICC '94, Conference Record, Conference on Serving Humanity Through Communications, IEEE International, Vol. 2, May 1-5, 1994, pp. 1179-1183.	
Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).

² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14.